

VZCZCXRO8733
PP RUEHLH RUEHPW
DE RUEHIL #3116 3650722
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
P 310722Z DEC 09
FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6658
INFO RUEHBUL/AMEMBASSY KABUL 1342
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON 2086
RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI 5931
RUEHPW/AMCONSUL PESHAWAR 7398
RUEHLH/AMCONSUL LAHORE 8338
RUEHKP/AMCONSUL KARACHI 2738
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA 4175
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 0503
RHMFISS/CDR USCENCOM MACDILL AFB FL
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHINGTON DC
RUEHUNV/USMISSION UNVIE VIENNA 0131

C O N F I D E N T I A L ISLAMABAD 003116

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 10/06/2019

TAGS: [PGOV](#) [PREL](#) [PTER](#) [PREF](#) [EAID](#) [PK](#)

SUBJECT: DEMARCHE DELIVERED ON "DEFAMATION OF RELIGIONS"
MESSAGE

REF: A. STATE 128322

[1](#)B. ISLAMABAD 2706

Classified By: Anne W. Patterson for reasons 1.4 (b) (d)

[1](#)1. (C) PolOff delivered reftel demarche regarding the U.S. request to cooperate with Pakistan to constructively address the problem of racial and religious intolerance and discrimination to MFA Director General (Americas) Sohail Khan on December 30. Khan noted U.S. opposition to "defamation of religion" initiatives supported in the UN by the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) and promised to relay the message to Foreign Minister Makhdoom Shah Mahmood Qureshi and MFA Director for UN Affairs Farooq Iqbal Khan. While he was receptive of the U.S. sending a team of officials and experts to meet with Pakistani counterparts to discuss the issue further, he was noncommittal on whether these efforts would substantially impact Pakistan's current position.

[1](#)2. (C) Comment: Pakistan is actively seeking support for its candidacy for a non-permanent seat on the UN Security Council for the term 2012-2013 (Reftel B). Their candidacy has been endorsed by the OIC Council of Ministers and it is likely the Pakistanis will work hard to keep their positions aligned with the OIC. End Comment
PATTERSON